

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The local LAN 10 is connected to the Internet 30 through the Internet gateway 20. Connected onto the Internet 30 are computer systems 31 to 34 (Suppliers A to D) of manufacturers which manufacture and provide components to the company.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In this case, the designer accesses the WWW server 112 from the terminal 123 (e.g. a CAD system), and requests for the trend information, as shown in FIG. 17 (Step S[[31]] 33). In response to this request, the WWW server 112 reads out corresponding trend information from the trend-information file 116 (Step S[[32]] 34), and sends the read information to the design-section terminal 123 (Step S[[33]] 35). The design-section terminal 123 displays the received trend information (Step S[[34]] 36). The designer can refer to the future trend in the technology of a component and analysis of the trend in the market of the component, based on the displayed trend information. By referring to the analysis of the trend of the component in the market, it is possible to select a component under the consideration of the future trend of the component. Further, by referring to the recommendation information set by the admission section, it is possible to focus on some components to a certain extent, of the plurality of admitted components.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 26, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In response to this instruction, the design-section terminal 123, reads out the list of the components from the design drawing (Step S41), and informs the WWW server 112 about the listed components (Step S42). The WWW server 112 generates an SQL statement for obtaining information regarding the informed components (Step S43), and sends the generated SQL statement to the DB server 119 (Step S44). The DB server 113 searches the admitted-component DB 119 and improvement/cessation DB 120 for searched information in accordance with the generated SQL statement, so as to obtain the information regarding the components (Step S45). If there is components which is not admitted to be used or purchased in the list, the DB server 119 adds warning information to the searched information. The DB server 113 sends the obtained information to the WVWW server 112 (Step S46), and the WWW server 112 sends ~~the~~ this information to the design-section terminal 123 (Step S47). The design-section terminal 123 stores the received component information on a recording medium, in association with the components included in the component list (Step S48).